University of Missouri President Mun Choi (Left) and Vice Chancellor and Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Christopher Daubert, (Right) joined other leaders, friends, and Joe and Betty, by honoring Dillard at a celebratory dinner.

Joe G. Dillard, MOAFS Chapter Historian Emeritus, was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree at the University of Missouri’s Ag School’s mid-year graduation ceremony on Friday the 16th of December 2022.

He was nominated for this award for his contributions to conserve, preserve and manage Missouri’s aquatic resources. He worked for the University of Missouri as a Fisheries Extension Biologist and the Director of the Missouri Watershed Information Network.

He also held numerous positions with the Missouri Department of Conservation including Fisheries Biologist, Senior Fisheries Biologist, Fisheries Administrative Specialist, and Chief of the Fisheries Research Section.

He served as President of the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society, and finally as President of the American Fisheries Society at the international level.

Over his career, he published 15 research publications, 21 popular articles, 10 information pamphlets, 5 books, and edited three newsletters.
Joe has dedicated his life to education and is often quoted as saying, “I am so old that I have forgotten the question, but the answer is education!” True to his word, he established the Joe G. Dillard Family and Friends Scholarship at MU, and recently had MOAFS’s Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship named after him.

He lives in Columbia with his wife Betty, 3 children, 5 grandchildren, and 4 greatgrandchildren